

Oct 6, 2025



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH DAKOTA PEACE GARDEN UNIT

PRAIRIE ROSE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been an honor to be the North Dakota Peace Garden Unit President for the past year. Barb and I have thoroughly enjoyed ourselves at our rallies this year and have appreciated all of the support you have given us. I would strongly encourage everyone to try and attend as many rallies as you can. I know we all have busy lives but the more effort you put into the club the more you will get out of it. If you're camping and you see another Airstream don't be afraid to introduce yourself. You may be helping to recruit a new club member. Thanks again for a great year. Even though our trailer is safely tucked away for the winter, I'm excited for next year's camping season. Having the International Rally in Minot will give many of you a chance to participate in your first International Rally. It's an experience you don't want to miss.

Jeff



2026 Rally Schedule

Summit , SD July 9-12, 2026

Other rallies to be determined. If you have any ideas or want to host a rally I'm sure Allan would welcome any help

SHADEHILL RESERVOIR RALLY

The Shadehill Reservoir Rally was held July 17-20. One of the highlights of the rally was driving to Lemmon, SD and touring the John Lopez Art Museum. John Lopez himself gave us the tour of his amazing metal sculptures. The next day we drove back to Lemmon to tour the Petrified Wood Park and it's associated museum. Kelly Jilek led a watercoloring class for the aspiring artists of the group. We had great weather for the weekend which allowed us to get great use of our club Blackstone grill for breakfasts and dinners. We had a cornhole tournament and even had axe throwing. Luckily no injuries were sustained in the axe throwing.



NOME SCHOOLHOUSE RALLY

Our last rally of the year was at the Nome Schoolhouse. We had 13 trailers attend making it one of the biggest rallies in recent years. As you can see from the picture mother nature didn't cooperate as it rained all day Thursday and Friday.



The Schoolhouse was great though, allowing us to use their event space for our morning coffee and evening happy hour.



The Schoolhouse also gave us a tour of the school and the fiber mill in the basement. There were several photo books documenting the 3 year renovation of the school. What an amazing transformation. The fiber mill tour showed us the step by step process of creating yarn from the different kinds of wool. Several members took part in a felting class led by owner Chris Armbrust.

Mary Maier and Bev wells also taught an Airstream bracelet and Diamond Dot class.

The food at the Schoolhouse was incredible. We had excellent breakfasts every morning. The Thirsty Thursday meal and Friday night pizza buffet were also very good, but the Installation dinner was amazing.



We even managed to get a nice group photo after the Installation dinner.



YOUR NEW OFFICERS

President - Allan Towles

1st VP-Mary Maier

2nd VP-Barb Hanson

Treasurer-Roxanne Towles

Secretary-Bev Wells

Trustee-Jeff Hanson

Trustee-Larry Ruebel

Trustee-Chris Wells



PAST PRESIDENTS

After attending the Nome Rally Chris and Bev Wells headed to Bismarck for a visit with Larry and Cathy Ruebel, and Bev and Vern Zink.

I've been using the Membership Directory a lot recently and I realized everyone in this picture had been a past President of the club.

Thank you for your service to our club.



Notes from Chris Olsson – R7 President

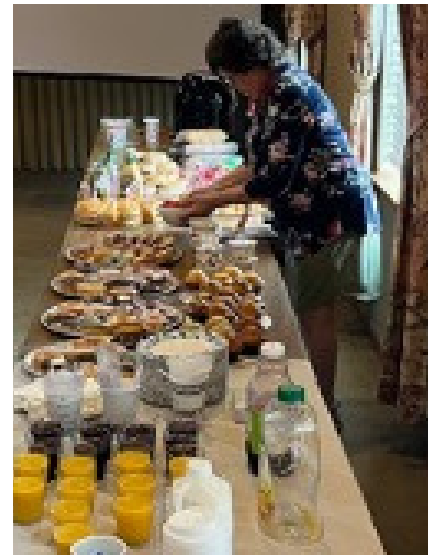
International Rally #68 is now history. We attended, representing Region 7, and had a really good time. We bought 2 e-bikes before heading to the rally, and we used them extensively to get around the fairgrounds. During the Opening Ceremonies, we walked in with Vernon Petersen carrying the Region 7 Flag. The flag procession was different this year, as the Executive Council entered first, followed by the Region Presidents, and then the Individual Club flags paraded in in Region Number order.



At the IR, Kay and I hosted the Region 7 Brunch. For the brunch, we had an assortment of goodies and drinks. Here's Deanna Scholz working on setting up the buffet table.

She was very instrumental in supplying all of the food except the donuts and coffee. I made a Dunkin run (Dunkin Donuts) for the donuts and coffee.

Even though we had a small crowd, we all had a good time and got to know each other a bit better. Below are some pictures from the brunch.



Something you may not have known is that I sponsored the newly formed Fly Fishing Airstream Club. This is an Intra-Club and is open to all members. In order to form an Intra-Club, an IBT member needs to sponsor them. Fortunately, I did not need to know anything about fly fishing (I don't fish at all) to be their sponsor. Anthony Robbins is the founding member and the current President of the club. At the International Rally, I attended their first social gathering and installed the officers.

Also at the International Rally, we made contact with the Members at Large group at their Social and invited them all to visit us in Region 7.

The next International Rally will be held in Minot, ND, from August 22 to 27, 2026. Registration is open! (we're going.) If you have not read about it, the refund policy for the IR next year is different than it has been in the past. There are also more camping options available. Please look at the 2026 International Rally information on the ACI website for more details.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or something you would like me to bring to the IBT, please let me know.

Chris Olsson

R7 President

cwolsson@comcast.net

Head West Miss Molly

Bev finally fully retired, to dedicate her retirement to do anything with a thread and needle (quilting, knitting, crocheting, embroidery) or crafts in general and traveling in our Airstream Trailer. Starting our trip west to Shoal Lake, MB on July 4, 2025. Great opportunity to visit with John Fikkert and other friends in the area.

This trip had been planned to tour areas in northern Saskatchewan that Chris had travelled through his work, but Bev had never had the opportunity. The forest fires curtailed heading north of the Yellowhead Highway 16, so we journeyed to Saskatoon and stayed the first night at River Valley RV Park, Langham. Oh my, Molly loved her walk the grass was like on a golf green lush, green and thick.

The next day continued on the Yellowhead arriving in Edmonton, staying at Diamond Grove RV Park in Spruce Grove. Now this campground was somewhere Miss Molly loved to roam, on her leash of course, and our campsite was perfect for rolling in. Visited our sister-in-law Debbie and her 2 dogs George and Gracie. Also visited our friends from Yuma days, Rita and Rene, who toured us around down town Edmonton and the rural area of Spruce Grove and Stony Plains.

Pretty much every day there was some kind of rain, from a drizzle to a downpour, but never enough to stop us from touring.

Traveled west from Edmonton than south on Highway 22, on the scenic Cowboy Trail, and made our way west to Drumheller. The Cowboy Trail is along Canada's Rocky Mountain Foothills. This route was suggested by Rene and Rita and we highly recommend driving it. Spent the night at Hidden Valley RV Park at Sundre. Short walk for Molly too much highway traffic noise for her liking.

River Grove Campground was our destination in Drumheller. Now remember it is rainy and wet, but Molly loved the park and the extra long walks, all those low bushes and high trees. In Drumheller we toured the Royal Tyrrell Museum, rode on a ferry, saw the hoodoos, toured the area and visited Chris's cousin, Chris. Yes, there are 2 Chris Wells in the same family. The Bleriot Ferry crosses the Red Deer River, cable operated and commissioned in 1913

The Tyrrell Museum, you could spend all day, if you were to read everything, but a good 2 to 3 hours is required to tour the museum. If you want to know anything about dinosaurs this is the place to be. As Chris says he has seen more bones than he ever wants to see again. Bev must convince him that we still need to go to Dinosaur Provincial Park at Brooks, AB, where you can actually see bones being uncovered.



After Drumheller spent a night in High River at the George Lane Memorial Park and Campground and onto Crowsnest Pass via the Cowboy Trail the next day. Stayed near Bellevue, at the Crowsnest Park Campground. Both places were a toenail up in Molly's book for great walking and touring.

Toured the communities of Bellevue, Frank, Blairmore, Hillcrest, and Coleman. Lucky enough to be on the right day for the Farmer's Market in Blairmore, fresh cherries, homemade tarts and hot rods. The following day drove to Waterton National Park, which borders Montana's Glacier National Park. Did a walking tour of the Waterton Village. Toured to Cameron Lake with a view of Glacier National Park in the background spotted with snow, also saw the Cameron Water Falls and drove the Red Rock Parkway to the Red Rock Canyon. Our drive through the park included a wide range of scenery from Rocky Mountains, pine trees and prairie grass. Actually, saw people parking their cars and walking back to see a grizzly bear on the cliff above the road, plus people standing around and sitting on bicycles. Pretty amazing to see the grizzly as we drove by, shocking to see the naïve people.

The next day we visited Chris's cousin in Pincher Creek, Suzanne and Jim who toured us around the area. Prior to heading to Pincher Creek, we visited the Frank Slide Interpretative Centre. On April 19, 1903 at 4:01 in the early morning a portion of the Turtle Mountain broke free and 82 million tons of rock covered the area and a portion of the town of Frank. Witnesses from the event stated from the first noise to the end of the rock slide was 90 seconds. With the rainy conditions and the slide portion of the mountain in the clouds, the view is eerie. Today the mountain is being monitored with seismic equipment because this could happen again.



On Sunday July 20 we drove into British Columbia going as far as Fernie and stopping along the way at Sparwood to see the Terex 33-19 Titan rock truck, which is a 260 ton truck that could carry 350 tons and was used for moving coal.

On Monday started our trip home with first stop at High River, Alberta to visit Chris's cousin Greg. Shortly after we arrived in High River the rain started and was still raining when we left early the next morning. At Medicine Hat was raining so hard was almost a white out. Stayed at Willowbend Campground in Maple Creek, Saskatchewan. Would have been a beautiful place for Molly to go for a walk, but was far too wet. The next night we stayed in Indian Head Campground, finally no rain, Molly went for a few walks. The next day we went to see our friends near Lenore, Manitoba, north of Virden. Molly enjoyed a few short walks, too many neighbourhood cats and dogs. Arrived home on Sunday July 27, 2025.

A wonderful trip, even with the rain, we are looking forward to our next big tip with the Airstream in 2026. Oh, we seemed to have brought the rain with us, wonderful!

Submitted by: Chris and Bev Wells

INSTALLATION RALLY BUSINESS MEETING NORTH DAKOTA PEACE GARDEN (NDPG) UNIT

Nome School House, 210 1st Avenue, Nome, North Dakota September 18 - 21, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Hanson at 10:01 a.m. on Saturday, September 20, 2025. Unit members present were Fikkert, Hanson, Kuehn, Larson, Maier, Picken, Towles, Wall, Wells and Winters. Also attending were Steve and Carrie Carlson, Associate Members Kenny and Monica Kubischta and Region 7 President Chris Olsson and Kay, all of the Minnesota Airstream Club.

Roll Call of Officers:

Present: Jeff Hanson

1st Vice President: Allan Towles

2nd Vice President: Mary Maier

Recording Secretary: Bev Wells

Corresponding Secretary: Barb Hanson

Treasurer: Roxanne Towles

Past President/Trustees: Larry Ruebel (absent) Chris Wells

Rolly Wall

Secretary's Report: Minutes from Summer Opener Rally Business Meeting of June 14, 2025 were circulated. A motion was made by Barb Hanson to approve the minutes of June 14, 2025 as circulated, and seconded by Rose Larson. MOTION CARRIED.

Reports of Officers and Committees:

Treasurer's Report was given by Roxanne Towles. Opening Balance of \$1,805.73 with income of \$316.00 and expenses of \$750.98, with a current bank balance of \$1,370.75. A motion was made by Wanda Wall to accept the Treasurer's report and seconded by Chris Wells. MOTION CARRIED.

Old Business:

Unit Flag: President Hanson reported the flag for the North Dakota Peace Garden (NDPG) Unit. The proposed flag was circulated to the Unit membership on June 17, 2025 to receive feedback from the membership regarding the design that included a buffalo and wheat to represent the states and province. President Hanson's daughter designed the flag with a buffalo covered in aluminum, including rivets and a beret on the buffalo's head, with wheat on each side of the buffalo. Upon receiving approval of the NDPG Unit membership the flag was submitted to Airstream Club International (ACI), which provided approval of the flag.

Region 7 President Chris Olsson assisted with the submissions to ACI. President Hanson ordered a doubled sided flag at a cost \$110, which he carried at the Opening Ceremonies of the ACI International Rally in York Pennsylvania. Directions to order a flag will be provided to the membership by email

New Business:

Brochure: Region 7 created a brochure for the Region that can be distributed to owners of Airstream, recommend NDPG Unit circulate to potential members with North Dakota, South Dakota and Manitoba licences.

International Rally Minot in 2026: President Hanson indicated there is an Ambassador Program to promote the region. Upon receipt will circulate a document from ACI about how our members can participate to contribute to the success of the International Rally. Suggested arriving at the International on Thursday, 2 days before the commencement of the rally. Meet at a spot or campsite and go in as a group so we can be parked together. Will have power, bring fresh water and empty waste, with fresh water and waste pump out after 4 days attendance.

Newsletter: President Hanson, as the editor, requested members submit an article on your trip or technical information to assist members.

Membership: Monica Kubischta presented 5 year increment membership stars to the following, 5 years – Bob and Mary Maier, 10 years Gordon Picken.

Nominating Committee: On behalf of the Committee President Jeff Hanson reported the slate of Officers as follows:

President	Allan Towles.	Treasurer	Roxanne Towles
1 st Vice President.	Mary Maier.	Trustees:	Jeff Hanson
2 nd VVice President	Barb Hanson.		Larry Ruebel
Recording Secretary	Bev Wells		Chris Wells
Corresponding Secretary	Roxanne Towles		

Jeff Hanson volunteered on the Standing Committees, including Membership, Newsletter and Webmaster Manager

A motion was made by Rolly Wall, to accept the Nominating Committee report and seconded by Ron Larson. MOTIONED CARRIED. Installation will take place following a supper this evening.

Recessed at 10:33 a.m.

President Jeff Hanson called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m., after a delightful supper.

Installation of Officers:

Chris Olsson, Region 7 President completed the swearing in of the Unit Officers. The following Officers were installed:

Allan Towles.	President
Mary Maier.	1 st Vice President
Barb Hanson.	2 nd Vice President
Roxanne Towles	Treasurer
Bev Wells.	Recording Secretary
Roxanne Towles.	Corresponding Secretary
Jeff Hanson, Larry Ruebel, Chris Wells.	Trustees

Region 7 President Chris Olsson affirmed the NDPG Unit member support for the Executive Officers completing their duties. Chris Olsson presented to Jeff Hanson the Past President flag.

Region 7 President Olsson thanked the membership for the opportunity to install the Executive Officers. Also provided information that there will be four (4) motions coming up at the next IBT meeting and will provide the motions to the Unit Members and request input. Will be participating in a Strategy Planning Session, face to face at Jackson Center.

President Allan Towles presented information of the location of 2026 rallies. Arrangements are made for a July 9 – 12, 2026 at the Summit in South Dakota, with others in the south east corner, west, in the center or north east corner of the Unit area.

Donation: A motion was made by Bob Maier to approve a donation of \$100.00 to Nome School House, and seconded by Jeff Hanson. MOTION CARRIED.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by Jeff Hanson at 7:28 p.m.

Respectively submitted

Bev Wells

Secretary